

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you today as a satellite TV subscriber who stongly support s the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV. The combination of these two satellite providers will provide numerous benefits to consumers like me, i ncluding more choices in channels, programming, broadband and new televisio n technologies.

By merging, the combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cabl e television and can offer more programming choices and, most importantly, all local TV channels in every market in the U.S. By providing local TV c hannels everywhere, this merger will make satellite television a strong alt ernative to cable in our community. Our community has only a single choice for cable and that company needs viable competition to force them into reas onable service levels and competitive pricing. The merger will also bring t he availability of affordable high-speed Internet service by satellite to o ver 40 million Americans who don't have high-speed Internet access. These tremendous benefits to consumers won't happen without the merger. Satellite -delivered Internet service will bring an affordable and competitive altern ative to cable modems and DSL to consumers in big cities, small towns and r ural areas alike. This will give me a competitive choice for Internet acce ss and will be especially advantageous to rural communities where cable mod ems and DSL are not likely to be available anytime in the near future.

In the interest of improving our access to competitive television and Inter net service, I urge you to lend your support to this merger.

Sincerely,

David McClung
33 Goldenrod Drive
Carlisle, PA 17013